Rhetorical Analysis Outline

**INTRODUCTION (1st paragraph):**

* Introduce purpose for essay, what rhetorical analysis is and why it is important
* Introduce text to be analyzed
* author’s credentials
* author’s full name (spelled correctly)
* title of the text— (NO BOLD and NO UNDERLINED, italics or quotation marks as appropriate)
* summary of the text for context

**AUTHOR’S ASSUMPTIONS AND VALUES (2rd paragraph):**

* Introduce and define what author assumptions are and why they are important in rhetorical analysis.
* State the author’s assumptions from your article (your claim).

The rest of this paragraph is evidence to support your claim about the author’s assumption.

You should have at least 2 pieces of evidence with elaboration to support this claim.

The following questions should be answered within this paragraph:

* What are the author’s assumptions and/or biases? What makes this statement an assumption and/or bias?
* What evidence can you provide to prove such biases?
* Based on the limited knowledge you have on the author, why would this author have this assumption and/or bias?

**STRUCTURE (3rth paragraph):**

* Introduce why structure is important to consider in analyzing a text
* statement about the author’s use of structure (your claim)
* Should address how the author structures the text- consider introduction, where the claim occurs, shifts, etc. (use your charting of the text!)
* The rest of this paragraph is evidence to support your claim of author’s use of structure.

You should have at least 2 pieces of evidence with elaboration to support this claim.

The following questions should be answered within this paragraph:

* Where are rhetorical elements (claims, evidence, and rhetorical strategies) located on the text?
* Why were they placed there? What purpose does it serve?
* Why did the author decide to write the text in this format versus another style?

Evidence #1:

* Provide evidence through an example from the text
* Use correct citation include a quote and page number
* Elaborate to explain how this evidence furthers the author’s claim

Evidence #2:

* Provide evidence through an example from the text
* Use correct citation include a quote and page number
* Elaborate to explain how this evidence furthers the author’s claim

**RHETORICAL STRATEGIES/DEVICES (4th paragraph):**

Introduce why rhetorical strategies are important to consider in analyzing a text.

Introduce **3 rhetorical devices/strategies** you will analyze (types of evidence, ethos/pathos/logos, analogies, assumptions, allusions, comparisons, etc……..)

The rest of the paragraph:

Evidence #1:

* Define the rhetorical device you will discuss
* Provide evidence through an example from the text where the rhetorical device appears
* Use correct citation include a quote and page number
* Elaborate to explain how this rhetorical device furthers the author’s claim

Evidence #2:

* Define the rhetorical device you will discuss
* Provide evidence through an example from the text where the rhetorical device appears
* Use correct citation include a quote and page number
* Elaborate to explain how this rhetorical device furthers the author’s claim

Evidence #3:

* Define the rhetorical device you will discuss
* Provide evidence through an example from the text where the rhetorical device appears
* Use correct citation include a quote and page number
* Elaborate to explain how this rhetorical device furthers the author’s claim

**CONCLUSION (5th paragraph):**

The following questions should be answered within this paragraph:

1. Who cares?—Intended audience
2. Why should we care?—Purpose for the essay
3. What did you gain from writing this essay?—Reflection of the writing process
4. What do you expect the reader to gain from reading your essay?—Reflection as a writer